

Arkansas Department of Career Education

Dr. Charisse Childers, Director

ACE Employee Awarded Patriot Award

LITTLE ROCK – Tim Johnston, program coordinator for the Arkansas Department of Career Education's Office of School Improvement and STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) Education, is the recipient of the coveted Patriot Award. This award is presented by the Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve (ESGR), a program of the U.S. Department of Defense.

Solona Islam-Lukens, a Staff Sergeant in the U.S. Air Force Reserves, nominated Johnston, who is her supervisor, to receive this award. She recommended Johnston because of his support and understanding for the times she is away on military leave.

Any employee serving in the National Guard or Reserve or the spouse of a Guard or Reserve member may recommend a supervisor's name to receive the Patriot Award. The nominator includes a narrative that typically includes how his or her supervisor has shown immense compassion and understanding through flexible schedules or granting leaves of absence, among other supportive methods.

"This award is a tremendous honor and well deserved!" said Charisse Childers, Ph.D., Director of the Arkansas Department of Career Education. "We appreciate Tim and his support of those who serve our country like our own Staff Sergeant Islam-Lukens."

State Senator Jayne English, the Arkansas State Chair for the ESGR, presented the award to Johnston with Islam-Lukens.



Johnston (middle) accepts the award from Islam-Lukens (left) and English (right).

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